

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10

EA-10 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06

AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15

PA-01 PRS-01 /131 W

-----111583 301452Z /53

R 300959Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4309

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL SHIRAZ POUCH

AMCONSUL ISFAHAN POUCH

AMCONSUL TABRIZ POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 TEHRAN 7731

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON EGEN UNCTAD IR

SUBJ: UNCTAD COMMON FUND MEETING, NOV 7-DEC 2: IRAN'S POSITION

REF: (A) STATE 192330, (B) STATE 191812, (C) STATE 179166

1. E/C COUNSELOR SPOKE WITH DIR GEN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFS IN MFA, EHSASSI, AUG 29, PER INSTRUCTION REF B. IT WAS EVIDENT THAT GOI'S THINKING, AT LEAST WITHIN MFA, IS STILL VERY MUCH IN FORMATIVE STAGE AND EHSASSI'S OBSERVATIONS WERE OFFERED IN LARGE PART AS HIS PERSONAL VIEWS. HE NOTED AT A NUMBER OF POINTS IN CONVERSATION THAT IRAN'S FINAL POSITION WOULD BE CLOSELY TAILORED TO THE G-77RZMSENSUS BUT THAT GOI WELCOMED CON-

SULTATION WITH US. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION.

2. RE PARA 2A REF B, EHSASSI SAID IRAN'S POSITION ON

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UPCOMING COMMON FUND TALKS WOULD BE DEVELOPED PRIMARILY WITHIN MFA BUT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH MINISTRIES ECONOMIC AFFS AND FINANCE AND AGRICULTURE. HE THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT ONE OR MORE GOI OFFICIALS FROM TEHRAN WOULD GO TO GENEVA FOR COMMON FUND MEETING BUT PROBABLY NEITHER OF THESE WOULD BE OF MINISTERIAL RANK. HE OPINED THAT IRANIAN DEL

WOULD RELY ON ITS MISSION IN GENEVA FOR MUCH OF THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND BACKSTOPPING. HE REITERATED THAT IRAN'S MISSION IN GENEVA, AS WELL AS MFA IN TEHRAN, QUITE WILLING TO CONSULT WITH US ON COMMON FUND AND HE SUGGESTED MR KOWSAR, MEMBER OF IRANIAN DEL IN GENEVA, AS MORE OR LESS THE ACTION OFFICER FOR COMMON FUND MATTERS. KOWSAR WILL GO TO NEW YORK FOR PART OF THE UNGA BUT OTHERWISE WILL BE AVAILABLE IN GENEVA. FOLLOWING USUAL STAFF WORK WITHIN GOI, EMB WOULD JUDGE THAT IRAN'S FINAL POSITION WILL AT THE MINIMUM REQUIRE APPROVAL OF FONMIN KHALATBARI AND POSSIBLY EVEN OF PRIMINN AMOUZEGAR. ANY IRANIAN POSITION, HOWEVER GENERALIZED, COMMITTING GOI TO FINANCING OF COMMON FUND WOULD CERTAINLY REQUIRE AMOUZEGAR'S AUTHORIZATION AND PROBABLY THAT OF THE SHAH AS WELL.

3. E 2B REF B, EMB JUDGESTHAT EXTENT TO WHICH IRAN'S DEL IS INSTRUCTED WILL BE DEPENDENT TO LARGE EXTENT ON HOW ITS POSITION MESHES WITH G-77 CONSENSUS AS IRAN UNDERSTANDS THIS. FOR EXAMPLE, EHSASSI THOUGHT THAT IF IRAN'S FINAL POSITION IS MORE OR LESS IN CONSONANCE WITH G-77 POSITION, THEN IRAN DEL WOULD HAVE FAIRLY AMPLE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT TO NEGOTIATE WITHIN CONFINES OF G-77 POSITION WITHOUT REFERRAL TO TEHRAN. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THERE ARE MAJOR ELEMENTS IN THE G-77 CONSENSUS ABOUT WHICH IRAN UNDECIDED OR OPPOSED, THEN IRANIAN DEL WOULD BE CLOSELY INSTRUCTED BY TEHRAN AND WOULD HAVE LITTLE FREEDOM OF

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MOVEMENT. EHSASSI NOTED THAT THERE WOULD BE LITTLE FORWARD MOVEMENT WITHIN GOI ON ITS COMMON FUND POSITION UNTIL MFA HAD RECEIVED REPORT FROM ITS GENEVA MISSION ON COMMON FUND ISSUES AND STATE OF PLAY ON G-77 THINKING.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 TEHRAN 7731

4. EHSASSI GAVE IT AS HIS OPINION THAT AS FAR AS IRAN WAS CONCERNED, THE FIRST PRIORITY OF THE NOV-DEC 2 MEETING WOULD BE TO ASCERTAIN WHAT THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS HAVE IN MIND AS REGARDS COMMON FUND. A G-77 REACTION WHICH WOULD THEN FOLLOW. HE DID NOT APPEAR FAMILIAR WITH THE FULL RANGE OF G-77 "INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES" DISCUSSED PARA 1B OF REF C.

5. RESPONDING TO EMBOFF'S QUERY ON IRAN'S CURRENT VIEWS ON INDEXATION, EHSASSI SAID THAT HE THOUGHT IRAN'S POSITION HERE WOULD BE "FLEXIBLE". HE NOTED THAT GOI HAS RETREATED CONSIDERABLY FROM NOTION OF INDEXATION AND HE DOUBTED THAT IRANIAN DEL WOULD BE MUCH DISPOSED TO PROSELYTIZE G-77 ON THIS ISSUE. IF, HOWEVER, A CONSENSUS SHOULD EMERGE FAVORING INDEXATION, THEN IRAN CERTAINLY WOULD NOT STAND IN ITS WAY. THE GENERAL THRUST OF EHSASSI'S REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT OF INDEXATION, HOWEVER, SUGGESTED THAT GOI CONTENT

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TO LEAVE THIS ISSUE ON BACK BURNER FOR INDEFINITE FUTURE.

6. EHSASSI THOUGH THAT IRAN WOULD ACTIVELY SEEK TO DEVELOP A COMMON POSITION AMONG OPEC MEMBERS IN GROUP OF 33 (PARA 2 REF A) IF SUBJECT OF OPEC FINANCING OF COMMON FUND BECAME AN ACTIVE POINT OF DISCUSSION.

7. WE ARE INCLINED TO FAVOR THE IDEA OF AN EXPERT COMING TO TEHRAN TO DISCUSS COMMON FUND ISSUES WITH GOI (PARA 2C REF B). WE ARE UNABLE TO JUDGE PRECISELY LATEST POSSIBLE TIME AT WHICH EXPERT'S DISCUSSION HERE WOULD BE WORTHWHILE BUT WOULD HAZARD THAT EARLY OCTOBER WOULD NOT BE TOO LATE. BELIEVE IT WISE, HOWEVER, TO ALLOW SOME TIME TO PASS FOR GOI TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM ITS GENEVA MISSION ON COMMON FUND ISSUES. IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR UNDER SECY COOPER

TO SPEND A DAY OR 2 IN TEHRAN FOR TALKS FOLLOWING
HIS VISIT TO ASEAN CAPITALS, WE THINK THIS
MIGHT HAVE A BENEFICIAL RESULT WHETHER OR NOT GOI'S
POSITION IS MUCH ADVANCED FROM WHERE IT NOW STANDS.
UNDER SECY'S PRESENTATION AT A SUITABLY HIGH
LEVEL OF PAPER. FOR EXAMPLE, DELINEATING USG POSITION
ON MAJOR COMMON FUND ISSUES MIGHT SPARK GOI TO THINK
MORE ALONG OUR LINES.

8. FOR GENEVA: WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANYTHING
YOU LEARN FROM IRANIAN DEL GENEVA.
SULLIVAN

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